

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on January 10, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully considered. Reconsideration of the final rejections presented therein is requested for at least the following reasons, and it is respectfully requested that the Amendment be entered under 37 CFR §1.116(b)(1) as merely cancelling claims.

In this Amendment, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-8 without prejudice. Claim 9 is the sole independent claim, and claims 9-18 remain pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 9-18.

Applicants also wish to thank the Examiner for conducting a telephone Interview with Applicant's Representative on March 19, 2007. In the course of the Interview, the Examiner agreed that the excerpt at column 6, lines 13-26 of *Kichury* relied upon in the Office Action refers to comparing the depth of two separate objects, and so *Kichury* does not disclose the claimed step of comparing an image with a texture map, as recited in claim 1 as well as in claim 9.

Notwithstanding the above, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-8, without prejudice to pursuing such claims in a continuation application to be filed during the pendency of the present application.

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over the combination of *Kichury* (U.S. 6,057,850) with *Teo* (U.S. 6,385,349 B1). This rejection is respectfully moot, claims 1-8 having been cancelled.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action and the passing of this case to issue are requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Should any fee be required, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

10th April 2007
Date


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ALP/

AMENDMENT

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